

From the Natchez Free Trader.

Romantic Story.—The Boston Times says "some one lately attempted to murder a sleeping woman by pouring hot lead into her ear, and that so shocking a circumstance was never heard of before." This is a mistake. A more remarkable instance occurred some years ago, in Virginia. We personally knew all the parties intimately. Col. F., a gentleman of high respectability and frequently a representative from his county, died, leaving a wife and three sons, and a very beautiful daughter, about 15 years of age. The widow, finding herself destitute, opened a boarding house at the county seat, and among her boarders was Mr. W., a wealthy merchant, in the meridian of life, and a very fine looking man. This gentleman was the prop and stay of the family, gave employment to the sons, furnished means to educate the daughter in the most fashionable manner, and conceived for her a violent passion. On her return from school, he addressed her, but she resisted like his appeals and the importunities of her mother and friends. She had indeed, formed an attachment for a very "nice young man" in the same town, but he was not to be put in competition with the rich merchant, in the estimation of the family. The young lady, perhaps, thought otherwise. Finally, however, after two years of assiduity and delicate gallantry on the part of Mr. W. and the combined tears, entreaties, threats and persecutions of the family, the fair girl stood before the altar and became his wife. The next evening a large party was given them, and in the midst of the dance Mr. W. being suddenly attacked with vertigo and sick head ache, was compelled to withdraw. His young wife hung over him in the silent watches of the night, apparently in deep distress, and insisted on giving him a potion. She poured out a wine glass full of laudanum, and he swallowed it without knowing its nature. From some cause, it immediately acted as an emetic; but left him stupid and wandering. His senses receded. One moment he would lay motionless and comatose as if on the borders of the spirit world, and then he would shriek and leap up convulsively like a strong man in his agony. Mrs. W. denied all admission into the chamber. At length he fell into a gentle slumber. She then stooped for a moment over the smoldering embers—approached the bed, gazed at her sleeping husband, and holding a heated ladle in her hand, calmly prepared to pour a stream of melted lead into his ear. At that instant he moved, and the hissing liquid intended to penetrate and scald out his brain, fell only upon his cheek. He shouted in excruciating pain, and the revellers, mother, brothers and friends, rushed in. There withered the still stupid husband, the lead riveted deep into his cheek, and there stood the dead wife, her bridal fillets yet upon her brow, the instrument of death in her hand and an empty phial labelled "Laudanum" lying on the floor. The fearful reality of the case flashed on every one, and in the confusion of the moment she disappeared, and was hurried forthwith out of the commonwealth to a distant State; on searching the room an old French magazine was found containing the death-bed confession of a woman, who had murdered nine husbands by pouring lead into their ears. The laudanum and the lead, it was ascertained, she had procured from the store of Mr. W. a few days before her marriage, and the ladle used was part of a bridal present. The Grand Jury next morning found a bill against the fugitive, and the legislature in session, immediately decreed a final and absolute divorce. What renders this case the more singular, is that Miss T. was proverbial for the bluntness of her manner, and the uniform softness of her temper. She was a blonde. The rose leaf tinted her lily cheek as a sun beam glows on snow. Her blue eyes were indescribably sweet, and her golden hair floated like drapery of gossamer around a form more perfect and voluptuous, than ever Raphael dreamed of or Petrarch sung. Often have we gazed, as she stood the cynosure of every circle, and wondered if angles could be so fair.

But the sequel of this romance is more singular still. Years rolled by Mr. W. continued a wretched and solitary man. But the spell of the enchantress was still upon his soul. He closed his stores—sold out his estates—collected his ample means and followed her to her distant abode, to make a new offer of his hand! She had just married a man of high standing, aware of all circumstances, but incapable of resisting her charms. Poor Mr. W. Then indeed, did the iron enter his soul. "The deadly arrow quivered in his side." His early love—his fluctuating courtship—his triumph and the tragedy it occasioned—the flight—the divorce—his years of misery—the new birth of his passion and now its disappointment final and forever—came rushing over him, like an avalanche, in the tide of bitter memories, and he prayed for death! Whether this prayer was answered we know not. He may yet wander broken hearted over the earth; but one thing we do know. If he be dead, a more wretched, yet a purer nobler spirit never winged its flight to Heaven.

A LAUGHABLE STORY.

It is well said by the Philadelphia North American, that we may as well laugh as cry in this world. As last week was sad one, let this be more cheerful. The following quizzical story was told at a temperance meeting in Hartford, by a reformed drunkard. It opens rich, and as the man has become sober one may now laugh over his absurdities with double relish. He said—

I used to drink, and my wife used to jaw me about it. What do you get drunk for said she; what do you jaw me for said I. So we agreed, and made a firm bargain that I would not drink and she would not scold. For three long days we held on firm—no drinking nor scolding; but on the third evening, being in company with some good fellows, I took a horn, and when it was down I right off wanted another; and in a very short time I found myself about "how fare you" with twenty horns safe and snugly under my broad-brimmed hat. (Tremendous laughter.) By and by it got to be time to go home; but as you may well suppose, I dreaded to meet my wife like the toothache. (Laughter.) However, go I must; and so, I staggered along, hoping to find my wife abed. (Laughter.) When I reached the house, I found it still lighted, and through the window I saw my wife up and waiting for me. (Laughter.) Thinks I, I can't go in yet, but I must wait till she goes to bed; so there I stood half freezing in the cold rain two hours. (Tremendous laughter.) At last she went to bed, and I crept in at the back door, stumbling over pails and chairs, but finally succeeded in getting to bed, without disturbing her (laughter); but after dozing awhile, I awoke and found myself dry as a fish. (Laughter.) You know, brethren, how dry we all used to be in the night after we'd had a spree. (Tremendous laughter.) My wife always knew what was the matter with me when I got up in the night to drink cold water. (Laughter.) I harried her to get up, for fear of my wife; but my thirst was greater than I could bear; (laughter); so out I crawled, and groped very softly after the water pail (laughter); but no water was there. (Laughter.) I then felt round in the dark, on the tables and shelves, for some thing to cool my burning thirst. (Tremendous laughter.) Soon I found a tin pan full of liquid something; I seized it up to my mouth, and took a hearty draught—he liquor at the same time running out at each side of my mouth, down my cheeks' (Tremendous laughter.) I thought the liquor tasted odd, and at that instant it flashed on my recollection that I had fixed some poison five days before to kill rats with. (Tremendous laughter for five minutes.) Horror struck I stood my hair standing on end—it it was death to scream out, for my wife would jaw me if she waked—[laughing and stamping]—surely it would be death to hold still; but scream I must and scream I did—[riotous laughter]. "What was in that pan?" "You are dry—are you?" said she. "What was in that pan?" shouted I, still louder. "What makes you dry?" screamed she. "What was in that pan?" yelled I, in perfect agony of fear. "What pan?" "Why, the pan on the shelf." "Oh you brute! you have drank up all my starch!" [Tremendous laughter for five minutes, and cries of "Order!" from the chairman.] The next morning my shirt collar was pasted fast to my neck and cheeks and it took half an hour to clear it off.

John K. Outley,

Offers his services to the public as a general agent and collector. Any business confided to his care will be attended to with fidelity and dispatch. Office on Market St., in the building formerly occupied as the Sheriff's office. Ut supra.

References.

Hon. Hendry S. Bennett, Wm. M. Cozart, Gen. P. M. Grant, Maj. Thos. G. Blount, Harris, Clayton & Harrison, Columbus, Miss. Toomer, Gay & Co., Capt. C. H. Abert, Mobile, Ala. Capt. Wm. F. Shields, John J. Goodwin, New Orleans. Capt. Charles Shields, Robert A. Smith, Scotland Neck, N. C. Columbus, Miss., Feb. 15, 1842. *ut*

COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE,

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI,
LOWNDES COUNTY, S. S.
To all persons interested in the Estate of John A. Hogg, late of Lowndes County deceased.

WHEREAS, at the February Term A.D. 1842, of the Probate Court of said County, the Administrator of said Estate returned the same insolvent. Whereupon the undersigned, were appointed commissioners, to receive examine and apportion all the claims of the several creditors of said Estate.

You are therefore hereby required, to present all of claims against the said Estate, properly authenticated, to the Commissioners or either of them at the Court House in the town of Columbus, in the County and State aforesaid; on the first Monday of either month, within and during the term of six months from the date hereof, or you will be by law barred from collecting the same. And further that on the third

Monday of July 1842.

between the hours of ten o'clock A. M. and three P. M., at the Court House aforesaid, the Commissioners will make the apportionment of the aforesaid claims, when and where all persons interested are requested to attend.

JOHN D. MONTGOMERY,

GEO. M. MULLEN,

Commissioners.

Feb. 14, 1842. 6m. printers fee \$45.

Garrett's Hotel.

(Formerly the "Mansion House")
MAIN STREET,
COLUMBIA, ALA.

THIS house is now open for the reception of boarders and travellers, and the proprietor intends to merit the patronage of his friends and the public.

L. G. GARRETT,

(Late of the "Franklin House")

OLD MADEIRA, PORT, AND

SHERRY WINE.

Just received and for sale by

GREENE HILL.

AMERICAN LADIES' NATIONAL

MAGAZINE.

GODEY'S Lady's Book, for 1842, the most splendid and valuable monthly periodical ever published. The only Magazine devoted to Ladies, and conducted by members of the own sex. Composed entirely of original Articles, by the most eminent writers of the age; and embellished with a larger number, and greater variety of costly, elegant, and attractive Pictorial Illustrations, than any similar publication.

EDITED BY

Mrs Sarah J. Hale, Morton M. Michael, Mrs. L. H. Seymour, L. A. Godey.

Contributors to each number.—Miss C. M. Sedgwick, N. A. Willis, Miss E. Leslie, Mrs. C. Lee Huntz, Mrs. E. C. Embury, T. S. Arthur, Theodore S. Fay, Mrs. E. F. Ellet.

In announcing to his numerous patrons and the public at large his arrangements for the year 1842, the proprietor of Godey's Lady's Book takes occasion to acknowledge the unparallelled and triumph success of the Magazine, which has now reached the extraordinary number of

40,000 COPIES MONTHLY.

Being a larger Edition than has ever been printed of any other work of any description in America. The success which has been attained, is owing to the superior quality of the Magazine, which has always maintained over the various contemporary magazines, a superiority which he is still determined to preserve, by keeping it, in all its departments, later, sweeter, and more interesting, than any other. In the articles, as well as in the Pictorial, Emblematic, and Mechanical. This is no idle boast, he appeals to the experience of the past twelve years, in all which time he has made no promise to the public which he has not fully performed, nor taken anything to the uttermost.

Entering into a new and do, on the 24th volume of the Lady's Book, with increased energy and accumulated resources; with an ample knowledge of the business in which he is engaged, acquired by twenty years of experience, and with a determination to keep it up to the mark in the articles, as well as in the Pictorial, Emblematic, and Mechanical. This is no idle boast, he appeals to the experience of the past twelve years, in all which time he has made no promise to the public which he has not fully performed, nor taken anything to the uttermost.

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NOTICE.

In obedience to a Decree of the Chancery Court of Giles County, Tennessee, at Pulaski, at the September term, 1841, and by virtue of a deed of trust to me executed as trustee, by James Abernathy and David H. Abernathy, on the 12th day of February, 1841, of which I am the sole surviving trustee, and in pursuance of the said deed of trust, I have sold at public sale, at the office of the Clerk of Lowndes County, Mississippi, at Columbus, in book No. 16, pages 497, '98, '99 and 500, and in the office of the Clerk of Oktobee County, Miss. at Starkville, in book A, pages 368, 369, 70, 71, and 72—1 will proceed to sell at public sale for cash, in the town of Columbus, County of Lowndes, and State of Mississippi,

On the 18th day of May, next, (1842)

all the right, title, and interest, that the said James Abernathy and David H. Abernathy have in, and to certain tracts of Land, lying in said County of Lowndes, on the Tombigbee River, (one and a half, and two miles of Col. McCallum, and others, and registered in the Register's office of Giles County, Tennessee, at Pulaski, in book P, pages 20 and 21, and in the office of the Clerk of Lowndes County, Mississippi, at Columbus, in book No. 16, pages 497, '98, '99 and 500, and in the office of the Clerk of Oktobee County, Miss. at Starkville, in book A, pages 368, 369, 70, 71, and 72—1 will proceed to sell at public sale for cash, in the town of Columbus, County of Lowndes, and State of Mississippi,

On the 20th day of May, next,

I will proceed to sell at public sale for cash, in the town of Starkville, in the County of Oktobee, and State of Mississippi, all the right, title, and interest, which said James and David H. Abernathy have in and to a certain tract of land, lying in said County, and State aforesaid, containing one hundred and sixty acres, being the same now occupied by Daniel Huff.

Such title only will be conveyed to the purchaser as is vested in me as trustee.

E. J. EASTHAM, trustee.

O. F. BLEDSON, Com'r.

JNO. S. TOPE, Com'r.

November, 1841.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CHANCERY,

OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

William Massengale, }
vs. } December
McKiernon, et al. } Term, 1841.

UPON opening the matters of this bill

it appeared to the satisfaction of

the Court, that the defendant Bernard

McKiernon is not an inhabitant of this State,

but resides beyond the limits thereof, so

that the ordinary process of this Court

cannot be executed on him; it is therefore

ordered, that unless the said defendant

appear before the Chancellor at the Court

room in the town of Columbus, on the

Second Monday in June, next,

and plead, answer or demur to the said

bill of Complaint, the several allegations

thereof will be taken for confessed, and

such order and decree made therein as

the Chancellor may deem equitable and

just. It is further ordered that a copy of

this order be inserted in the "Southern

Argus" once a week, for two months suc-

cessively.

R. L. DIXON, Clerk.

By M. McCARTHY, D. Clk.

Dec. 26, 1841. 9c. pf \$15.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CHANCERY,

OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

William W. Topp, }
vs. } Dec. Term, 1841.
Judah Barrett, }

UPON opening the matters of this

bill, it appearing to the satisfaction

of the Court, that the defendant is not an

inhabitant of this State, but resides beyond

the limits thereof, so that the ordinary

process of this Court cannot be served on

him; it is therefore ordered, that unless

the said defendant appear before the

Chancellor at the Court room, in the

town of Columbus, on the

Second Monday in June, next,

and plead, answer, or demur, to said

bill of Complaint, the several allegations

thereof will be taken for confessed, and

such order and decree made therein, as

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R. L. DIXON, Clerk.

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Dec. 26, 1841. 9c. pf \$15.

CO-PARTNERSHIP.

THE undersigned having formed a copar-

nership, for the purpose of attending to

claims of the estate before the several De-

partments at Washington City, and especially

for the procuring of Patents for Land and the

settlement of Pre-emption claims, respectfully

offer their services to the Public in the above

capacity. After the 15th of February, next,

Ralph Graves may be found at his office

in Washington City, Charles R. Cruse at his

office in Columbus Miss.

RALPH GRAVES,

CHARLES R. CRUSE,

Columbus, Miss., Jan. 15, 1842. *ut*

CHARLES R. CRUSE,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

COLUMBUS, MISS.

WILL practice in the Circuit Court of

Lowndes and the adjoining Counties, in

the Chancery Court at Columbus, and in the

District Court of the United States of the

Northern District of the State of Miss.

Columbus, Miss., Jan. 15, 1842. *ut*

SUPERIOR COGNAC BRANDY

Just received and for sale by